

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13

EUR-25 DRC-01 /126 W

----- 010329

R 051219Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8557

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 3177

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, SF, BC

SUBJ: SOUTH AFRICA UPSET BY BOTSWANA'S REPORTED SUPPORT
FOR LIBERATION MOVEMENTS

1. ACCORDING TO SEPTEMBER 5 RAND DAILY MAIL, MINISTER OF
DEFENSE P. W. BOTHA, SPEAKING AT OPENING OF CAPE NATIONAL
PARTY CONGRESS IN OUDTSHOORN SEPTEMBER 4, REACTED STRONGLY TO
INCOMPLETE OR ERRONEOUS REPORTS SAG HAD RECEIVED ABOUT CONTENT
OF JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED BY SIR SERETSE KHAMA AND JULIUS
NYERERE IN DAR ES SALAAM ON SEPTEMBER 3. BOTHA DESCRIBED
REPORTS THAT BOTSWANA HAD AGREED TO SUPPORT TERRORISM AGAINST
SOUTH AFRICA AS "DISASTROUS IF TRUE" AND SAID S.A. MINISTER OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS HILGARD MULLER WOULD HEAD TOP-LEVEL INQUIRY
OF REPORTS. "WHATEVER THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER, HOWEVER,"
BOTHA SAID, "I WISH TO STATE EMPHATICALLY THAT SOUTH AFRICA,
WILL USE

ALL THE POWER AT ITS DISPOSAL TO DEFEND ITSELF

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AGAINST ATTEMPTS TO DESTROY IT THROUGH REVOLUTION."

2. COMMENT: SAG FEARS OF CHANGE IN BOTSWANA'S POLICY TOWARD
LIBERATION MOVEMENTS DURING KHAMA'S VISIT TO TANZANIA APPARENTLY
ARE GROUNDLESS. SUBSEQUENT NEWS AGENCY REPORTS AND STATEMENT
BY SPOKESMAN FOR KHAMA'S OFFICE THAT BOTSWANA "DOES NOT GIVE
ACTIVE SUPPORT TO THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
SHOULD PUT THESE FEARS TO REST. SUPPOSITION THAT BOTHA
BLUNDERED SUPPORTED BY FACT THAT HIS STATEMENTS CARRIED ONLY
IN MAIL AND NOT IN TRANSVAAL AFRIKAANS MORNING NEWSPAPERS.
SMITH

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: willialc
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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